

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006 LB 1039, 1076

SENATOR CUDABACK: A motion to adopt the E & R amendments. All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Kremer would move to amend, AM3195. (Legislative Journal page 1567.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kremer, to open on AM3195.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. The amendment, AM3195, is actually the bill LB 1076, which was heard on February 6 in the Natural Resources Committee, and it makes some changes in the Environmental Trust Board membership. At the present time, the Environmental Trust Board is made up of members from three from each of the congressional districts and then one from the different agencies, the Environmental Quality director, the Natural Resources director, the director of agriculture, the secretary of the Game and Parks Commission. What we are proposing to do here and it was supported by the Environmental Trust Board and everyone that testified, testified in support, and it was voted unanimously out of committee. And what it does is that it divides the districts up and the same districts that the Game and Parks Commission districts are. So, one person would be chosen from each of those existing Game and Parks Commission districts, and then it would still have the five from the different directors of the agencies. Rob Ravenscroft testified in favor. He is on the Environmental Trust Board, but he testified individually, not as a representative of the board because they testified in a neutral position and is supportive of it, but didn't feel like it was proper for them to support changing it. Rob felt that it was appropriate because when they award the grants across the state--and I do have a map there showing the different districts and the amount of dollars that the grants were awarded across the state--they do award them evenly across the state. And he thought it would be very helpful that if there's someone on the board from each of these different districts, one from far west, one from kind of the north central, and that they would be able to know about the application of the grant, the application was from, could support it, or say whether it's good. And also, felt like it would be very helpful if a member of the Environmental Trust Board lived in those areas even to show